

CLAIMS

1. A method for improving a user's performance on multiple choice examinations, said method comprising:
 - 5 displaying a question and a plurality of answer choices;
 - displaying, at a user's request, a hint to assist the user in correctly answering the question;
 - receiving the user's selection of one of the answer choices;
 - determining whether the answer choice selected by the user is the correct answer choice;
 - 10 displaying a visual indication of whether the selected answer choice is the correct answer choice;
 - causing an explanation of the correctness or incorrectness of the selected answer choice to be displayed; and
 - 15 displaying, at a user's request, substantive information that is linked to the question that has been presented to the user.
2. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the substantive information is text that corresponds to text provided in a textbook.
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3. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the question is associated with a topic, and wherein the substantive information pertains to detailed information on the topic of the question.

4. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the explanation and the visual indication of whether the selected answer choice is the correct answer choice are displayed immediately and automatically after the user has selected one of the answer choices and said determining has determined
5 whether the answer choice selected by the user is the correct answer choice.

5. A method as recited in claim 4, wherein the question is associated with a topic, and wherein the substantive information pertains to detailed information on the topic of the question.

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6. A method as recited in claim 5, wherein after the explanation and the visual indication of whether the selected answer choice is the correct answer choice are displayed, said receiving the user's selection of one of the answer choices, receives a newly selected answer choice for the question, thereafter
15 said displaying the visual indication operates to display another visual indication for the newly selected answer choice, and said causing causes the explanation of the correctness or incorrectness of the newly selected answer choice to be displayed.

20 7. A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the explanation being displayed differs depending on the one of the answer choices selected.

8. A method as recited in claim 7, wherein said method further comprises:

25 displaying a time duration.

9. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said method further comprises:

displaying a time duration.

5 10. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the explanation is dependent on the one of the answer choices selected, whereby the explanation displayed differs for each of the answer choices.

10 11. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein after the explanation and the visual indication of whether the selected answer choice is the correct answer choice are displayed, said receiving the user's selection of one of the answer choices, receives a newly selected answer choice for the question, thereafter said displaying the visual indication operates to display another visual indication for the newly selected answer choice, and said causing causes an explanation of the correctness or incorrectness of the newly selected answer choice to be displayed.

15 12. A method as recited in claim 11, wherein the explanation being displayed differs depending on the one of the answer choices selected.

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13. A method as recited in claim 1,

wherein said displaying the question and the answer choices operates to sequentially display a series of questions and their associated answer choices, the questions being associated with topics of a multiple choice examination, and each of the questions being assigned to one of the topics, and

wherein said method further comprises:

displaying performance information for the user.

14. A method as recited in claim 13, wherein the performance information
5 includes a percentage correct for at least one of the topics associated with the
questions.

15. A method as recited in claim 13, wherein the performance information
includes an average time per question for individual topics associated with the
10 questions.

16. A method as recited in claim 13, wherein the question is associated
with a topic, and wherein the substantive information pertains to detailed
information on the topic of the question.

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17. A method as recited in claim 16, wherein the explanation and the
visual indication of whether the selected answer choice is the correct answer
choice are displayed immediately and automatically after the user has
selected one of the answer choices and said determining has determined
20 whether the answer choice selected by the user is the correct answer choice.

18. A method as recited in claim 17, wherein after the explanation and
the visual indication of whether the selected answer choice is the correct
answer choice are displayed, said receiving the user's selection of one of the
25 answer choices, receives a newly selected answer choice for the question,
thereafter said displaying a visual indication operates to display another

visual indication for the newly selected answer choice, and said causing causes an explanation of the correctness or incorrectness of the newly selected answer choice to be displayed.

- 5 19. A method as recited in claim 18, wherein the explanation being displayed differs depending on the one of the answer choices selected.
20. A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the question is associated with a topic, and wherein the substantive information pertains to detailed information on the topic of the question, and
10 wherein said method further comprises:
 - displaying a time duration.
21. A computer readable medium including at least computer program code for assisting a user with preparation for an examination having multiple-choice questions, said computer readable medium comprising:
 - computer program code for displaying a question and a plurality of answer choices;
 - computer program code for displaying, at a user's request, a hint
20 to assist the user in correctly answering the question;
 - computer program code for receiving the user's selection of one of the answer choices;
 - computer program code for determining whether the answer choice selected by the user is the correct answer choice;

computer program code for displaying a visual indication of whether the selected answer choice is the correct answer choice;

computer program code for causing an explanation of the correctness or incorrectness of the selected answer choice to be displayed;

computer program code for displaying, at a user's request, predetermined text that is linked to the question that has been presented to the user, the predetermined text corresponding to text provided in a textbook used in preparing for the examination;

10 computer program code for displaying a time duration;

computer program code for displaying, at a user's request, performance information for the user, the performance information including at least a percentage correct; and

15 computer program code for enabling the user to repeat those questions that were previously answered incorrectly,

wherein the explanation and the visual indication of whether the selected answer choice is the correct answer choice are displayed immediately and automatically after the user has selected one of the answer choices and said computer program code for determining has determined whether the answer choice selected by the user is the correct answer choice,

25 wherein after the explanation and the visual indication of whether the selected answer choice is the correct answer choice are displayed, said computer program code for receiving the user's selection of one of the answer choices, can receive a newly selected answer choice for the question, thereafter said computer program code for displaying the visual indication can operate to display another visual indication for the newly

selected answer choice, and said computer program code for causing can cause the explanation of the correctness or incorrectness of the newly selected answer choice to be displayed, though the percentage correct is based on the selected answer choice and is not effected by any newly

5 selected answer choices, and

wherein said computer program code for displaying the question and the answer choices operates to sequentially display a series of questions and their associated answer choices, the questions being associated with topics of the examination, and each of the questions being

10 assigned to one of the topics.